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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office

August 29, 2004

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Certified by

Jon W Dudas

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office



PTO/S8/16 (02-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0032

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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#### PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53 (c). Express Mail Label No. EL 768 962 054 US

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Bookmarks and Watchpoints fo	or Selection and Presentation	on of Media S	treams			
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TYPED or PRINTED NAME	Steven A. Swernof	sky	_	• •		
TELEPHONE 650-947-07	700		Dock	et Number:	217.1019.01	

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.51. The information is used by the public to file (and by the PTO to process) a provisional application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the complete provisional application to the PTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C., 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Box provisional Application, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231.

# PROVISIONAL APPLICATION COVER SHEET Additional Page

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This application is submitted in the name of the following inventors:

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19	View, California.	•	
20			·
21		TITLE OF THE INVE	NTION
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#### Bookmarks and Watchpoints for Selection and Presentation of Media Streams

#### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

#### 1. Field of the Invention

The invention relates to selection and presentation of media streams; in aspects thereof, the invention relates to bookmarks and watchpoints, and to event handling, for selection and display of videos from media, such as for example DVD and other related media.

#### 2. Related Art

In systems for presenting information, such as for example information relating to audiovisual media, users are able to present information already recorded on digital media. For example, DVD player systems provide users with the ability to play-back digital content pre-recorded on DVD media. In the incorporated disclosure (as described below) systems provide users with the ability to present media streams either after, or concurrently with, download of digital content representing those media streams from one or more content servers.

A first problem with known DVD media playback is that the process of playback involves interaction between the user and a pre-selected sequence of playback capabilities, recorded onto the DVD media by someone other than the user (such as a creator or distributor of that DVD media). For example, playback might involve navigation of a selection menu, might involve playback of audiovisual messages the creator or distributor has determined are advantageous for the user to be forced to watch (such as for example an anti-piracy warning, or such as for example one or more advertisements or pre-release announcements). Accordingly, it would at some times be advantageous to avoid being restricted by choices imposed on them by the creator or distributor of the DVD media.

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A second problem with known playback techniques is that the user might have a substantial library of media streams from which the user might desire to present. For a first example, the user might wish to present short clips (or "trailers") of individual movies as part of a process of selection or review of those individual movies. For example, the user might wish to present a trailer for an individual movie as part of deciding whether to purchase that movie (including for example on-line purchase of a downloaded copy) or to present that movie to a selected audience (including for example determining if that audience was interested in the movie in response to the selected trailer). For a second example, the user might wish to point to selections from media streams when analyzing, commenting on, reviewing, or selecting portions thereof. A first example thereof might be a biography of a known actor or director, including se-

i	lections of short clips of scenes used for illustrative and literary purposes. A second ex-
2	ample thereof might be that the user wishes to present a short clip, such as a favorite
3	scene, for presentation to a selected audience (including for example just the user them-
4	self), or as part of a pedagogical exercise (including for example as a demonstration of
5	acting technique or camera work).
6	
7	Both these problems are exacerbated by increases in the number of DVD
8	media providers (whether creators or distributors), and by increases in the number of
9	media streams available to the user. Moreover, both these problems might inhibit de-
10	velopment of a convenient UI (user interface) for selection and presentation of media
<b>1</b> 1	streams, whether from recorded physical media or downloaded from one or more con-
12	tent servers.
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14	Accordingly, it would be advantageous to provide an improved technique
15	for video selection and presentation, relatively less subject to problems with known
16	techniques.
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18	SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION
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20	The invention provides a method and system capable of selection and
21	presentation of media streams, in which presentation is not substantially limited by any

order imposed by the digital content representative of those media streams.

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ating and referencing a bookmark to a location selected within the media stream, not 3

necessarily pre-selected by the creator or distributor of that media stream, and possibly 4

5 dynamically selected by a recipient of digital content representing that media stream.

In addition to referencing the bookmark, the invention provides a user with the capa-6

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of that same film clip, and an event associated with the watchpoint, which event directs a presentation device to return to a presentation state it was at before presenting from the bookmark. In this example, the film clip effectively acts as a media element capable of being inserted into another, different, media stream (or more generally, into any 18 other user interface or media presentation, the original user interface or media presen-

tation not necessarily including any original media streams of its own), without in-

In one aspect, the invention provides a method and system capable of cre-

In one aspect, the invention provides a method and system capable of cre-

ating a watchpoint at a location selected within the media stream, or a presentation

state otherwise associated with presentation of the media stream, and capable of associ-

ating an one or more events with that watchpoint. For one example, the user might

designate a bookmark at the beginning of a selected film clip, a watchpoint with the end

bility of starting or restarting presentation from the selected bookmark.

volving any other digital content associated with the larger media stream that contains

In one aspect, the invention provides a method and system capable of selecting one of a set of such film clips (bookmark-watchpoint pairs) for presentation, in 2 response to a user input, a user preference, a playback device configuration, demo-3 graphic information about the user or the playback device, or other pertinent informa-4 tion. For a first example, a single DVD might have a first version of its movie better 5 suited for presentation on a regular television screen, and a second version of its movie 6 better suited for presentation on a widescreen or HDTV television screen. For a second 7 example, a single DVD might have a first version of its movie better suited for presentation to a mature audience, and a second version of its movie better suited for presen-9 tation to a less-mature audience. For a third example, a single DVD might have a set of 10 u versions of its movie with selected different plot points or movie endings, for those dif-12 ferent audiences or users who prefer the movie to have a happy ending or otherwise. For a fourth example, a single DVD might have a shorter (abridged) and a longer (un-13 abridged) version of the same movie, selectable by the user. 14

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In one aspect, the invention provides a method and system capable of testing one or more state variables at such bookmarks or watchpoints, and of taking different actions in response to distinct values of those state variables. In one embodiment, the invention provides a user with the capability of designing a sequence of actions (conditional or unconditional), by which selections from media streams might be presented in response to digital content representing those media streams and in response to other information. Such other information might include the scope of a license af-

1 forded to the user, demographic or other metadata about that user, or interactive activ-

2 ity with that user (or more than one such user). Such a sequence of actions might be re-

3 corded, retrieved, transmitted, or received, similar to digital content representing any

other type of media stream.

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In one embodiment, the invention might include bookmarks created or edited using one or more techniques or by one or more types of creators. For a first example, bookmarks might be created in conjunction with the original content, such as for example by an author, creator, distributor, or synchronizer, of the original content. For a second example, bookmarks might be created by a party other than in conjunction with the original content, such as for example by a secondary distributor of the content, a server providing the content to an end-user along with newly-associated metadata, a translator of the original content, such as a person adding subtitles in a second or an alternative language or "dubbing" in sound in a second or an alternative, or such as an editor of the movie for a specific purpose, such as for example a purpose suitable for airliner use, for children, or for export to selected countries. For a third example, bookmarks might be created by end-user preferences, either explicit or implicit or some combination or conjunction thereof, such as for example in response to the end-user designating a favorite scene, or such as for example in response to the end-user skipping over a disfavored scene, or such as for example in response to demographic information about the end-user. Similar to bookmarks, the invention might also include

watchpoints created using one or more techniques or by one or more types of creators, as described above with regard to creation or editing of bookmarks.

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After reading this application, those skilled in the art would recognize that the invention is an enabling technology by which substantial advance is made in the art 5 of media streams and digital content representative thereof. For example, the invention 6 might be used to provide one or more of, or some combination or extension or mixture 7 of, any of the following:

Saving selected scenes from movies and requesting playback of those scenes, either in response to user command, pointers to those scenes, or metadata describing those scenes.

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Pausing movies during presentation on a first device and requesting playback on a second device, such as for example in response to user command.

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Assembling a collection of such selected scenes, possibly along with commentary, or possibly embedded in another media stream for which those selected scenes are exemplary or illustrative.

Assembling a collection of bookmarks or watchpoints, possibly along with commentary; maintaining that collection in a database or other metadata; or sending
 that collection from one device to another.

• Creating and presenting a demonstration of a home video system, including
demonstration of selection and presentation of media streams as part of the
demonstration. In one embodiment, the demonstration itself might be interactive, and include the capability for the user to select which media streams are se-

9 lected or presented as part of the demonstration itself.

Creating and presenting a media stream by which a pseudorandom or random
process determines presentation of such selected scenes, possibly in response to
other information. In one embodiment, the pseudorandom or random process
might select film clips in response to known preferences of the user, thus providing the capability of a film clip "screen saver" or a variant of the MTV channel.

Pausing, restarting, and repeating presentation of media streams, even for media
 for which such functions are not originally supported.

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 Direct access to feature presentations within recorded digital media, without any substantial requirement for navigating via pre-recorded menus or pre-recorded advertising, announcements, or warnings.

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- Direct access to supplements to such feature presentations, or trailers associated with such feature presentations, within recorded digital media, without any substantial requirement for navigating via pre-recorded menus or pre-recorded advertising, announcements, or warnings.
  - Presentation of media streams represented by digital content recorded on multiple volumes of digital media, such as for example movies recorded on more than
    one DVD, without any substantial requirement for the user to intervene at a
    switching point between those multiple volumes.
  - Performing operations external to presentation in response to the media stream, such as for example turning up room lights at the start of movie credits, diminishing sound volume during commercial breaks, or pausing presentation in response to aspects of the movie (such as for example at a commercial break in a broadcast movie).
  - Creating and presenting a computer game using individual film clips, either from pre-existing DVD media or newly-created digital content. For example, the

computer game might be interactive, or might respond to external information, such as for example a television news feed.

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In one embodiment, the invention includes a representation of a presentation state (herein sometimes called "P state") and a virtual machine state (herein sometimes called "VM state"), each of which is updated concurrently with presentation of the media stream.

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A bookmark preferably includes a defined P state and VM state to which a presenting device might be set, with the effect of providing that presenting device with the capability of presentation beginning at that bookmark. In one embodiment, presentation might instead begin at a closest "entry location" designated by the digital content representing that media stream. In one embodiment, the defined P state or VM state might include a known "title number" within DVD media on which is recorded the digital content representing that media stream.

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A watchpoint preferably includes a defined P state and VM state, along with one or more associated triggerable actions, with the effect that whenever the presenting device attempts to match its P state and VM state with that watchpoint, a sufficient degree of similarity (possibly for a subset of data associated with each such state) would cause the watchpoint to be triggered and the associated actions would be performed. For example, the presenting device might attempt to match its P state and VM

state with selected watchpoints after each known frame of the media stream, or at the beginning or end of each subsegment of the media stream designated by the digital content representing that media stream.

INCORPORATED DISCLOSURE

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This application claims priority of the following documents, each of which

is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

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U.S. provisional patent application 60/439,330, filed January 31, 2003, in the name of Shawn NEELY, Lawrence KESTELOOT, Margaret NOVOTNY, Marion BUCHENAU, Sheila FOLEY, and Michael O'NEIL, attorney docket number 217.1014.01, titled "User Interface for Video Selection and Display".

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 U.S. patent application 10/418,949, filed April 18, 2003, in the name of Shawn NEELY, Lawrence KESTELOOT, Margaret NOVOTNY, Marion BUCHENAU, Sheila FOLEY, and Michael O'NEIL, attorney docket number 217.1017.01, titled "Guide-Like User Interface for Video Selection and Display".

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U.S. patent application 10/418,739, filed April 18, 2003, in the name of Shawn
 NEELY, Lawrence KESTELOOT, Margaret NOVOTNY, Marion BUCHENAU,

ì	Sheila FOLEY, and Michael O'NEIL, attorney docket number 217.1018.01, titled
2	"Mosaic-Like User Interface for Video Selection and Display".
3	
4	These documents are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth
5	herein, and are sometimes referred to herein as the "incorporated disclosure".
6	
7	Inventions described herein can be used in combination or conjunction
8	with technology described in the incorporated disclosure.
9	
10	DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT
11 .	
12	In the description herein, a preferred embodiment of the invention is de-
13	scribed, including preferred process steps and data structures. Those skilled in the art
14	would realize, after perusal of this application, that embodiments of the invention
15	might be implemented using a variety of other techniques not specifically described,
16	without undue experimentation or further invention, and that such other techniques
17	would be within the scope and spirit of the invention.
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19	Lexicography
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21	The general meaning of each of these following terms is intended to be il-
22	histrative and in no view limiting

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The phrase "media stream" describes information intended for presentation in a 2 sequence, such as motion pictures including a sequence of frames or fields, or 3 such as audio including a sequence of sounds. As used herein, the phrase 5 "media stream" has a broader meaning than the standard meaning for "streaming media," (of sound and pictures that are transmitted continuously using packets and that start to play before all of the content arrives). Rather, as described herein, there is no particular requirement that "media streams" must be delivered continuously. Also as described herein, media streams can refer to other information for presentation, such as for example animation or sound, as 10 well as to still media, such as for example pictures or illustrations, and also to 11 databases and other collections of information. 12 -

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The phrase "digital content" describes data in a digital format, intended to represent media streams or other information for presentation to an end viewer.

"Digital content" is distinguished from packaging information, such as for example message header information. For the two phrases "digital content" and "media stream," the former describes a selected encoding of the latter, while the latter describes a result of presenting any encoding thereof.

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The phrases "digital media," "DVD media," and the like, describe media capable
 of maintaining digital content in an accessible form. DVD media specifically de-

scribes a family of encoding formats including DVD-video (such as for example used with media including digital video disks or equivalents thereof).

The terms "playback," "presentation," and the like, describe presentation (such
as for example to one or more users) of audio, visual, or other features of media
streams.

• The phrase "content server" describes a device (or a portion thereof, or a set of such devices or portions thereof) capable of sending digital content to recipients. For example, a content server might include a web server at which a user is provided the capability of purchasing digital media for download. In the context of this application, there is no particular requirement that the server be (logically or physically) located at any particular address or place, or have any particular architecture, or use any particular protocol for communication. For example, the content server might include a process logically available to a local presentation device.

The term "bookmark" describes a reference to a logical location selected within a
media stream. In one embodiment, bookmarks are not necessarily pre-selected
by the creator or distributor of that media stream, and are possibly dynamically
selected by a recipient of digital content representing that media stream. In one

embodiment, presentation devices are capable of starting or restarting presentation from a selected bookmark.

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The term "watchpoint" describes a reference to a logical state of a presentation device, such as for example a logical location selected within a media stream. In one embodiment, watchpoints are capable of associating an one or more events therewith, and (preferably) those one or more events might be conditioned on some other data or state information. For one example, the user might designate a bookmark at the beginning of a selected film clip, a watchpoint with the end of that same film clip, and an event associated with the watchpoint, which event directs a presentation device to return to a presentation state it was at before presenting from the bookmark. In this example, the film clip effectively acts as a media element capable of being inserted into another, different, media stream, without involving any other digital content associated with the larger media stream that contains that film clip.

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The scope and spirit of the invention is not limited to any of these definitions, or to specific examples mentioned therein, but is intended to include the most general concepts embodied by these and other terms.

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Although preferred embodiments are disclosed herein, many variations are possible which remain within the concept, scope, and spirit of the invention. These variations would become clear to those skilled in the art after perusal of this applica-

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tion.

 The invention is not restricted to movies, but is also applicable to other media streams, such as for example animation or sound, as well as to still media, such as for example pictures or illustrations, and to databases and other collections of information.

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Those skilled in the art will recognize, after perusal of this application, that these alternative embodiments are illustrative and in no way limiting.

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#### **TECHNICAL APPENDIX**

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Other and further information about the invention, and embodiments thereof, are included in a technical appendix, hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein. The technical appendix includes the following documents:

21

- 1 "Automatic Masking." (Paul Rechsteiner, Nik Gervae, Shawn Neely, Michael
   Malcolm, Ray DePaul, Daniel Collens)
- 2 "Deletion of Movies." (Daniel Collens, Kevin Hui, Lawrence Kesteloot, Richard
   Czegledi, Michael Malcolm, Paul Rechsteiner)
- 3 "DVD Import and Cache Misses." (Daniel Collens, Shawn Neely, Richard
   Czegledi, Robert Zarnke, Paul Rechsteiner, Kevin Hui)
- 4 "DVD Reader User Experience." (Daniel Collens, Shawn Neely, Lawrence Kesteloot)
- 5 "DVD Bookmarks." (Paul Rechsteiner, Shawn Neely, Michael Malcolm, Law rence Kesteloot, Daniel Collens, Robert Zarnke)
- 6 "Installation Guide." (Shawn Neely, Lawrence Kesteloot, Daniel Collens, Ray
   DePaul, Paul Rechsteiner)
- 7 "OSD Standby Mode." (Paul Rechsteiner, Lawrence Kesteloot, Daniel Collens)
- 8 "Packages, Selections, and Play Items." (Shawn Neely, Lawrence Kesteloot,
   Daniel Collens)
- 9 "PVL UI Feature Requirements." (Shawn Neely, Paul Rechsteiner, Robert
   Zarnke, Daniel Collens, Richard Czegledi, Lawrence Kesteloot)
- 10 " Kaleidescape Home Video System Functional Overview." (Paul Rechsteiner,
   Daniel Collens, Shawn Neely)
- 11 "Serial Control Protocol." (Lawrence Kesteloot, Richard Czegledi, Paul Rechsteiner, Michael Malcolm, Daniel Collens)

- 12 "Suggested Touch Panel Layouts." (Shawn Neely, Lawrence Kesteloot, Daniel
   Collens)
- 13 "UI States." (Shawn Neely, Lawrence Kesteloot, Michael Malcolm, Daniel
   Collens)
- 14 "User-Defined Favorite Scenes." (Shawn Neely, Lawrence Kesteloot, Michael
   Malcolm, Daniel Collens)

8 Inventions described herein can be used in combination or conjunction

9 with technology described in the technical appendix.

1		CLAIMS
2		
3		1. A method, including steps of
4	•	sending a media stream to a first recipient;
5		creating a bookmark into that media stream at that first recipient, the
6	bookmark b	eing not pre-selected by a the creator or distributor of that media stream;
7		sending that media stream and that bookmark to a second recipient;
8		dynamically selecting that bookmark at that second recipient; and
9		presenting that media stream beginning at a point designated by that
10	bookmark.	
11 .	· :	
12	•	2. A method, including steps of
13		creating a watchpoint describing either (a) a presentation state in a media
14	stream, or (	b) another state associated with presentation of that media stream; and
15		associating one or more events with that watchpoint;
·16		whereby when said presentation state or other state is reached, those one
17	or more eve	ents are performed with regard to that media stream.
18		
19		3. A method as in claim 2,
20		wherein one of those events includes directing a presentation device to go
21	to a bookm	ark indicating a different presentation state associated with a beginning of a

film clip from that media stream;

	whereby the combination of the bookmark and the watchpoint enable that
!	film clip to be presented again.
}	
	4. A method as in claim 1, including steps of
5	testing one or more state variables at a selected watchpoint; and
5	performing an action associated with one of the events associated with
7	that watchpoint, in response to a result of the steps of testing.
8 .	
9	5. A method as in claim 4, wherein that action includes a sequence of
D	conditional or unconditional instructions.
i	
2 .	6. A method as in claim 4, wherein that action includes a sequence of
3	instructions capable of being recorded, retrieved, sent, or received.
4	
5	7. A method as in claim 4, wherein that action includes presenting
6	one or more selections from designated media streams, in response to information other
7	than found in digital content representing those designated media streams.
8	
9	8. A method as in claim 7, wherein that information includes at least
0 .	one of: a license afforded to the user, a set of demographic or other metadata about that
1	user, or a set of information gleaned from interactive activity with that user or more
2	than one such user.

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wherein one of those events includes directing a presentation device to go
to a bookmark indicating a different presentation state associated with presentation of
that media stream;

whereby the combination of the bookmark and the watchpoint enable a portion of that media stream to be presented as an film clip capable of being inserted into a distinct user presentation.

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10. A method as in claim 9, including steps of presenting one of a set of such film clips in response to at least one of: a configuration of a presentation device, a user input, a user preference, a set of demographic information about that user or that presentation device.

11. A method as in claim 9, wherein that distinct user presentation includes at least one of: a media presentation, a media stream, a user interface, a user presentation received from a source device, a user presentation recorded on physical media.

12. A method as in claim 9, including steps of selecting one of a set of media streams each designated by at least one such bookmark.

1	13. A method as in claim 12, wherein a single physical media includes
2	a first media stream suited for presentation on a first presentation device, and a second
3	media stream suited for presentation on a second presentation device.
4	
5	14. A method as in claim 12, wherein a single physical media includes
6	a first media stream suited for presentation to a set of users having a first demographic,
7	and a second media stream suited for presentation to a set of users having a second
8	demographic.
9	
0	15. A method as in claim 12, wherein a single physical media includes
11.	a plurality of media streams each identifiable or selectable in response to at least one
12	such bookmark.
13	
:	16. A method as in claim 12,
15	wherein a single physical media includes a set of media streams differing
16	in length, and
17	including steps of selecting one such media stream for presentation.
18	
19	17. A method as in claim 12,
20	wherein a single physical media includes a set of media streams differing
21	in storyline, and
22	including steps of selecting one such media stream for presentation.

#### **Bookmarks and Watchpoints for Video Selection and Presentation**

Paul RECHSTEINER et al.

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#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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Selection and presentation of media streams, in which presentation is not limited by order imposed by the digital content representative of those media streams, 7 in response to bookmarks and watchpoints settable and usable by a user. Bookmarks 8 9 reference a location within the media stream, not necessarily pre-selected and possibly dynamically selected, in which a presentation can be started or restarted therefrom. 10 11 Watchpoints reference a location within the media stream, or a presentation state for the media stream, in which an event can be triggered thereby. Bookmarks and watchpoints 12 provide a general technique for presenting selections from media streams in response to 13 metadata. 14



#### **Application Data Sheet**

State or Province of Residence::

Country of Residence::

	•
Application Information	
Application Type::	Provisional
Subject Matter::	Utility
CD-ROM or CD-R?::	None
Title Line One::	Bookmarks and Watchpoints for Selection
Title Line Two::	and Presentation of Media Streams
Title Line Three::	
Attorney Docket Number::	217.1019.01
Request for Early Publication?::	No
Request for Non-Publication?::	No
Suggested Drawing Figure::	÷ .
Total Drawing Sheets::	
Small Entity?::	No
Petition included?::	No
Petition Type::	
Licensed US Govt. Agency::	
Contract or Grant Numbers::	
Secrecy Order in Parent Appl.?::	No
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